April 14, 2014

## Sent via Certified Mail and Fax

Ms. Susan Studlien, Director Office of Environmental Stewardship U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 5 Post Office Sq., Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109

Re: NPDES Permit No. NH0100200

Administrative Order Docket No. 09-015

Town of Newport Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Quarterly Report

Dear Ms. Studlien:

As required by the EPA's Administrative Order (AO), please find the following quarterly report on the status of the Town's Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade for the January to March 2014 period.

 In early January Penta Corp submitted a request for partial Substantial Completion (Substantial Completion on the entire plant except the filters and associated equipment).

Due to sludge build up in the filters, several filter cassettes were damaged. The onsite surplus cassettes were discovered to be the incorrect size, and Penta Corp. agreed to order replacement cassettes. They were delivered to the plant in the end of January.

After installing the replacement cassettes and performing a thorough cleaning, the Town attempted to determine the chemicals and dosages for `filter operation during cold weather. The Town notified AECOM and the NHDES of the Town's intentions and both parties attended on a regular basis. AECOM sent a chemical expert to assist with the trials. Both Alum and PACL were tested as coagulants. The polymer was changed in dosage only. As a result of the testing during the 3 month period, it appears PACL is better suited for cold temperatures. At the end of March the filters were operational and the effluent Total P (after the filters) was regularly below the limit of 0.42 mg/l.

AECOM, Penta Corp., NHDES and the Town performed a Punchlist walkthrough of the project in late March. Penta Corp. is to start on the Punchlist work upon receipt of a final Punchlist from AECOM.

After receipt of the final Punchlist, Penta Corp. is to schedule the filter manufacturer to perform a thorough inspection of the filters and associated equipment to certify their operation and performance. A final performance test will begin after the filters are determined to be in accordance with project specifications. The performance test date has not yet been determined.

2. With regards to Whole Effluent Toxicity:

Since the Phosphorus Removal Project is experiencing operational problems, the EPA required WET compliance monitoring (as stated in the Administrative Order) will be delayed until the plant is operational.

 The infiltration and inflow study is ongoing. The Public Works Department is continuing the sewer system evaluation by constructing additional sewer manholes, performing infiltration and inflow testing and sewer video.

The Town will keep NHDES and EPA apprised of the situation and any significant events relative to project status when more substantial information is known.

If you need further information or have any questions, please call me at (603) 863-3650.

Respectfully,

Larry A. Wiggins, P.E. Public Works Director Town of Newport, NH

## LAW/jas

cc: Tracy Wood, P.E., NHDES (Water Engineering Bureau-Compliance, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095)

P. Brown, Town Manager

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